

Minutes of Allentown EAC Meeting held September 8, 2014
Allentown City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room

Allentown EAC members present: Rich Niesenbaum, Tinku Khanwalkar

Others present: Lee Vedder

Tinku Khanwalkar called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

Tinku moved to approve the minutes of the August EAC meetings. However, Randy Fey was the only other person at the August meeting, it was concluded that Randy's approval is needed. Tinku said she will obtain Randy's written approval of the minutes prior to filing them.

Old Business:

Review of Land Development Plans: Tinku reported that she talked to the Mayor about the EAC's interest in reviewing land development plans submitted to the Planning Commission. The Mayor suggested that the best approach would be for an EAC member to be appointed to the Planning Commission. Tinku and Rich agreed that this is a good approach. Rich agreed that his name could be submitted to the Mayor for consideration. Tinku will notify the Mayor.

Report on EAC Entry in Adventure Allentown: Neither Tinku nor Rich had seen the EAC item that was to be included in the Fall/Winter issue of Adventure Allentown. Other ways of improving communications on environmental issues were discussed. Tinku made a motion that the EAC Facebook page and the Allentown EAC web page should include links to the reports and other information being compiled through the Envision Lehigh Valley effort. Rich seconded the motion and it was **APPROVED**. Tinku will follow up with Joyce Marin and Jill Trznadel.

EAC Involvement in Publicizing Environmental Inventories: Rich offered to contact the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission on inventories they may have.

New Business:

EAC "blog" or newsletter in conjunction with other EACs: Following some discussion, it was concluded that the best place to begin a collaboration effort with other EACs would be with the Bethlehem EAC as it is an adjacent City to Allentown, of a similar size, with similar issues. Rich offered to make the initial contact and brainstorm on how best to share information and ideas.

Researching and Developing Sustainability Proposals: Tinku reported on her conversation with the Mayor in which he requested the EAC to research and make recommendations on successful green initiatives by other cities that are of a similar size and character and similar environment to Allentown. The Mayor wants the recommendations to be robust, reflecting a solid understanding of how the initiative could be implemented in Allentown, including how it could be financed, if applicable. Tinku suggested one area for potential recommendations could be related to energy efficiency, as the EAC has already been looking into that. It was agreed that Michael Gibson of Gray Connective should be invited to the October EAC meeting to discuss his firm's involvement with the energy efficiency initiatives being undertaken in the new buildings under construction in the NIZ. A possible initiative on bird strikes was also discussed. A plan needs to be developed on how further research on this would be done and a

recommendation developed. Rich Niesenabum then made a motion by the December EAC meeting, every EAC member should research and come up with 3 green initiatives for possible recommendation to the Mayor. Tinku seconded the motion and it was **APPROVED**.

Goals for 2015: It was decided that the December EAC meeting should include a discussion of the EAC's 2014 accomplishments and a discussion of the EAC's 2015 goals. It should also include a discussion of at least 2 names presented by each EAC member that we can recommend to the Mayor to appoint to the EAC.

Rich Niesenbaum moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tinku and the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.